which gentlemen asked him to adhere. How was it carried? By thirteen northern votes, (he hoped the number would not be enlarged now;) by thirteen northern votes abandoning their constituents, and failing to do what they were bound in conscience and honor, and upon their responsibility as representatives, to do. They were bound in conscience to vote against that compromise." "He came now to the Missouri compromise, to

That was the time for the north to have ac cepted the olive-branch, which was so repeat-edly held out to her by the south. But, instead of doing so, it was indignantly rejected, and the institutions of the south were angrily assailed particularly by those who were determined to exclude the south from all participation in territory we might acquire from Mexico, and ap

In 1848, while the Oregon bill was before Congress, Mr. Douglas again proposed to extend the Missouri line to the Pacific ocean. It was not only voted down, but the Wilmot proviso was engrafted on the bill.

But a southern President of the United States who now sleeps in his grave, and whose admir istration shed so much lustre upon our institu-tions, affixed to that bill his signature. Had he then doubted the future observance of the obligations of that compromise when a case should arise in which its benefits would inure to the south, his message upon the bill suffi-ciently shows it never could have received his signature. Then let not those who rejected this line whenever it was proposed in 1850, and avowed their hostility to it because of its supposed benefits to the south, now attempt to in pose upon the credulity of an honest people by the hypocritical cant for the sacred obligations of compacts.

"In December, 1819, application was made to Congress by the people of the Missouri Territory for admission into the Union as a State. The discussion upon the subject in Congress involved the question of slavery, and was prosecuted with such violence as to produce excitements alarming to every patriot in the Union. But the good genius of conciliation which presided at the birth of our institutions finally prevailed, and the Missouri compromise was adopted. The eighth section of the act of Congress of the 6th of March, 1820, 'to authorize the people of the Missouri Territory to form a constitution and State government, &c., provides: That, in all that territory ceded by France to the United States, under the name of tude, not included within the limits of the State servitude, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes, whereof the parties shall have been duly convicted, shall be and is hereby forever prohil ited: Provided, always. That any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is law fully claimed in any State or Territory of the Uni-ted States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service aforesaid."
"This compromise had the effect of calming the

troubled waters, and restoring peace and good will throughout the Union.

win throughout the Union.

"The Territory of Oregon lies far north of 36°
30', the Missouri and Texas compromise line. Its
southern boundary is the parallel of forty-two, leaving the intermediate distance to be three hundred and thirty geographical miles.

because the provisions of this bill are not inconsistent with the terms of the Missouri compromise, if extended from the Rio Grande to the Pacific ocean, that I have not felt at liberty to withhold my sanction. Had it embraced territ ries south of that compromise, the question presented for my consideration would have been of a have corresponded with my convictions.

the whole Union, and bound to guard the rights of all, I should be constrained by a sense of duty, to withhold my official sanction from any measure which would conflict with these impo

The Nashville convention, which has been so much misrepresented and so little understood, composed of delegates who had met together not to hatch treason as has been falsely charged, but to consult for the common good, to avert, if possible, the threatened danger, to assert the equality of the southern States in the Union, and the right of the southern people to carry with them into our common territory their property, and to enjoy it while there, agreed to take as a settlement of this question the Mis-

The eleventh resolution of that convention

"That in the event a dominant majority shall refuse to recognise the great constitutional rights we assert, and shall continue to deny the obliga-tions of the federal government to maintain them. it is the sense of this convention that the Territories should be treated as property, and divided be tween the sections of the Union, so that the rights of both sections be adequately secured in their respective shares; that we are aware this course is open to grave objections, but we are ready to acquiesce in the adoption of the line of 36° 30' north latitude, extending to the Pacific ocean, as an extreme concession upon considerations of what is due to the stability of our institutions."

Having thus disregarded it, through a long series of years, and adhered to it in no single instance where the south would be benefited. what shameless hypocrisv is it now, for the enemies of this bill to accuse its friends with violating plighted faith.

This offer, so repeatedly made-made, too, in good faith by the best, truest, and ablest men of the south, to restore peace and quiet to the country, to banish the slavery question, so fraught with danger to the Union itself, from the halls of Congress-was not accepted. Such was the aspect of this question upon

the meeting of the thirty-first Congress. spirit of abolition was rife and rampant, and everywhere triumphant at the north. The south had contributed largely of her treasure, and her sons had shed their blood on every field of bat tle in Mexico, to acquire this territory; yet the edict had gone forth, that every foot of it should be wrested from her and appropriated to the purposes of freesoilers and abolitionists at the north. Under these circumstances, a series of measures, known as the compromise of 1850. was adopted. And permit me to say, that, in my opinion, at least, a large majority of the southern people were opposed to that compromise; but I speak here only for the constituents I have the honor in part to represent on

I proceed now not to discuss these measures, but briefly to state the objections which many is the south had to them. But I wish it understood that I question no man's motives, nor impugn his patriotism, for having sustained these measures here or elsewhere.

First: the south objected to the admission of California, because no territorial government had been organized for that Territory; because of the irregularities attending the formation of her constitution, and because to the exclusion of the southern people and their property, that vast territory, with all its glittering wealth and boundless resources, had been taken possession of by those who chanced first to reach it, and appropriated to themselves. I do not deem it cessary, in this connexion, to allude to the agency of the government in much that transpired there. The grave has closed over the remains of our then illustrious Chief Magistrate. and I have no disposition unnecessarily to refer to reminiscences connected with the events of that period. I am merely stating the general objections of the south to the admission of California, under the circumstances connected

with her application. I frankly admit that up to this period, so far as remains of the great champions of State rights, political power is concerned, the south has lost nothing by the admission of California. I say this much as an act of justice to her senators and representatives here, who, by their support of this bill, have shown that they intend to stand by the Constitution, with all of its guar-anties of protection to the institutions of the

The south objected to the bill changing the boundaries between Texas and New Mexico, precisely the same ground, so far as acquies because she believed that Texas was entitled cence in these measures is concerned: to the boundaries prescribed by her constitution, and because \$10,000,000 were paid to "1. Resolved, That, in the opinion of this conventexas as an inducement for her to do so, a tion, the people of Mississippi, in a spirit of con-

speech made by Mr. Rathbun, of New York, on large portion of which was the hard earnings of the southern people. The south opposed the bill abolishing the slave-trade in the District of Columbia, because an unjust discrimination was made by it against slave property, and because she believed the precedent to be an alarm ing and dangerous one, and might be made use of as an entering wedge to still further en-

croachments upon her.

While no southern jurist of any distinction admitted that the Mexican laws were in force excluding slavery from the Territories of Utah and New Mexico, after our Constitution had been extended over them, still, as many of the ablest jurists and statesmen of the north, and Mr. Webster among them, contended that these laws were in force, the south believed that it was the duty of Congress to have repealed them, and to have extended the same protection to slave as other property, when, under the Con-stitution, it should be taken into these Territories; that the duty to protect did not carry along with it the right to exclude or destroy. test this question, Hon. Jefferson Davis, then a senator from Mississippi, offered the amend-ment to the compromise bills, and made the following explanation, both of which I quote from the Congressional Globe:

"Mr. Davis, of Mississippi. I offer the following amendment: To strike out in the sixth line of the tenth section the words in respect to African slavery, and insert the words with those rights of property growing out of the institution of Airi-can slavery as it exists in any of the States of this Union. The object of the amendment is to pre-vent the territorial legislature from legislating against the rights of property growing out of the

astitution of slavery.
"Mr. Douglas. Is it in order to ask for a divi-

ion of the question? sion of the question?

"The President Officer. It is not.

"Mr. Davis, of Mississippi. Mr. President, I will state very briefly the object I had in view in offering the amendent. It was to test the sense of the Senate on the single question, whether the right to the service of man, whether the right to the service as it exists in the slaveholding. property in slaves, as it exists in the slaveholding States of the Union, shall receive the same protection which other property shall receive in the Territories of the United States. The language of the bill, as it stands, would seem to exclude the idea of the right of property growing out of the institution of African slavery to receive the the institution of African slavery to receive the same protection from the Territorial legislature as is accorded to all other species of property. As I now propose to amend the bill, it will prevent the Territorial legislature from invading the rights of the inhabitants of the slaveholding States. I am willing to leave the question to be decided according to the great cardinal principles of the democratic party, that the people inhabiting a Territory, when they come to form a State constitution for themselves, can do as they please. It will for themselves, can do as they please. It will leave to the territorial legislature those rights and powers which are essentially necessary, not only to the preservation of property, but to the peace of the Territory. It will leave the right to make such police regulations as are necessary to pre-vent disorder, and which will be absolutely necessary with such property as that, to secure its ben-eficial use to its owner. With this brief explana-

But it was rejected, and the Utah and New Mexico bills finally passed with the following clause:

eficial use to its owner.

tion. I submit the amendment.

"And when admitted as a State the said Terri tory, or any portion of the same, shall be received into the Union, with or without slavery, as their constitution may prescribe at the time of their

This is what the south got by the compre mise of 1850—with the exception of the fugi-tive slave law, which is only valuable because of the constitutional right it was passed to enforce, but which is of little practical benefit to the south-not the repeal of the Mexican laws, but the bare recognition of the right of the people, at the proper time, to accept or reject slavery, as they may prefer.

These measures of compromise, then, to which the south was thus opposed, and against which the sternest and most determined opposition was made, became the laws of the land passed through all the forms required by the Constitution of the country; California had een admitted in the Union, with all the privleges of a sovereign State; Texas had accepted the \$10,000,000 offered her by Congress, and the President was proceeding to carry into effect the Utah and New Mexico

The question then presented itself, what was the south to do in view of the crisis which was upon her? The voice of Virginia was first heard on this subject-a State which had never faltered in its devotion to the true principles of the Constitution: which first unfurled the banner of State rights and State remedies, during the memorable conflict of 1798 and 1799; which first declared the great doctrine of the resolutions of Jefferson and Madison, the triumph of which was the triumph of popu-lar liberty and the sovereignty of the States over the illegitimate encroachments of federal

The following resolutions, offered by Hon. Henry A. Wise, were adopted by a meeting of the democrats of Virginia on the 17th Februarv. 1851 -

"4. Resolved. That it is the object of this meet caused by the continued agitation of past issues, and of the mode of their adjustment, among the friends of the Union and of State rights, of democracy and of the confederacy, of liberty and of law. issues, and of their late adjustment, either upon the one hand or upon the other, having no practical end, is now worse than vain, and is dangerous alike to all that is precious in the Union and that is worth preserving in the States.

"6. Resolved, That to appeal, on the one hand,

to State sovereignties, now to attempt by a resort to extreme remedies to undo what has been done, is to invoke them to risk the good which is still i and which is too precious to be jeoparded for that, whatever it be, which is lost and which cannot be restored, and appeals, on the other hand, to a love of the Union, and to federal power, intended and to destroy State pride, are no less odious than they are in the design of converting the holiest senti-ments of patriots into mere political capital, to be traded upon by that party for consolidation, which is as destructive of the Union and of the Constitution of the confederacy as it is of the rights of the States and of the liberties of the people."

The following resolutions were adopted by the legislature of that State, with but one dis-

senting voice: "1st. Be it therefore resolved by the general assem bly of Virginia, That whilst this State deceply sym-pathizes with South Carolina in the feelings excited by the unwarrantable interference of certain non-slaveholding States with our common institutions, and whilst diversity of opinion exists among the people of this Commonwealth in regard to the wisdom, justice, and constitutionality of the measures of the late Congress of the United States, taken as a whole, and commonly known as the compromise measures, yet the legislature of Vir-ginia deems it a duty to declare to her sister State South Carolina that the people of this State of the same) calculated to destroy the integrity of

this Union. "Resolved, 2d, That, regarding the said acts of the Congress of the United States, taken together, as an adjustment of the exciting questions to which they relate, and cherishing the hope that if fairly executed they will restore to the country that harmony and confidence which of late have been so unhappily disturbed, the State of Virginia deems it unwise (in the present condition of the country) to send delegates to the proposed Southern Congress."

Tennessee and Georgia took precisely the same position, that of acquiescence in these measures; and South Carolina, more jealous of her reserved rights, if possible, than any No human eye can penetrate the future, but | State in the Union-in whose soil slumber the Hayne, McDuffie, and Calhoun-after solemnly protesting against its injustice, acquiesced in that compromise. And in Mississippi, the question was distinctly made, in the election of delegates to a State convention, whether the people would accept these measures, or require amendments of them. I hold in my hand the resolutions adopted by the majority of that convention, and those reported by the minority, both taking

citiation and compromise, have maturely considered the action of Congress, embracing a series of measures for the admission of California as a State into the Union, the organization of territorial governments for Utah and New Mexico, the establishment of the boundary between the latter and the State of Texas, the suppression of the slave trade in the District of Columbia, and the extradition of fugitive slaves; and, connected with extradition of fugitive slaves; and, connected with them, the rejection of the proposition to exclude slavery from the Territories of the United States, and to abolish it in the District of Columbia; and, whilst they do not entirely approve, will abide b it as a permanent adjustment of this sectional controversy, so long as the same in all its features shall be faithfully adhered to and enforced."

[Minority Resolutions.]

"2. Resolved. That this convention deems it right and proper that full weight should be given in its action to the will of a majority of the people of Mississippi, as expressed in the election of Sep-Mississippi, as expressed in the election of Sep-tember last, in regard to the slavery question. "3. Resolved. That this convention considers ache compromise, as the settled policy of the people of Mississippi, as indicated by that election.

And to this platform Mississippi still adheres not of approval, for, in my opinion, but a small minority of the people of that State approved these measures, but of acquiescence in them. And I undertake to say that her great statesman, [Hon. Jefferson Davis,] who now presides over the War Department, and who sternopposed these measures in every shape in which they were presented, was never more enshrined in the confidence and affections of the people of Mississippi than he is to-day.

Having, then, forced upon the south the com romise of 1850, we ask the north to adhere to it in good faith, to carry out the spirit, meaning, and purpose of the doctrine of non-interrention of these measures.

But we are told that this principle was intended only to apply to that particular Territory, and that we have no right to expect its further extension.

But, sir, I deem it proper just here to declare that if non-intervention means, as some here contend, the abandonment of any duty by the federal government to avoid the hazard o forming it, I scorn and utterly reject the doctrine. It is only acceptable to me and those I represent as a principle, which is to confine the action of the federal government to the great objects for which it was instituted, not to fetter its arm, so that it cannot hold its protect ing shield over every citizen of the United States, whether found within the territory subject to the jurisdiction of the federal government, or upon the high seas, where federal protection alone could avail him. Then tell ne not this doctrine was for Utah and New Mexico alone: and, above all, tell me not it was there or elsewhere to screen the federal government from the performance of the duties for which the citizen pays tax to the government— the security of political, personal, and property rights. With this interpretation of the doctrine f non-intervention. I accept it; and if it was only intended to apply to this particular Territory, this principle was never designed to be a final settlement of the slavery question. This agiation is to go on; the halls of Congress are to be the scene of continued strife and contention. The press is still to teem with inflammatory appeals to the lowest passion of the people Mobs are to be lashed into fury by abolition orators, and the slavery battle is to be fought over again, whenever a square mile of territory is acquired, or Congress called upon to organze territorial government.

Sir, if this be true, the action of State and national conventions, pledging fidelity to these measures, as a settlement, fixed and irrevocable, of this question, in fact and principle, was

worse than a mockery.

If I understand, and I hope I do not mistake, he sentiment of those with whom I am associated here, they propose to repeal the Missouri compromise, because it was a usurpation of lower for Congress to attempt to exclude any particular species of property from any portion of that Territory, which they held in trust for he common benefit of the States; and if I am not mistaken in this opinion, how can they, in the same breath which declares that act void and inoperative, deny that those laws which were passed for the protection of slave property given to them by these enactments? The were covered by the prohibition of 1820. now declare that Congress had no authority thus to bury them; and, taking the covering off, what right have we to say that they shall not resume the vitality of which this incubus derives them?

Does this Territory belong to the States, as lescribed in the Constitution, or is it the property of those who, in the race of emigrati shall be the first to reach it? Let it not be said that I have asked a question which admits of but one answer; for upon the answer to this question depends the solution of that difficulty which now, and for years past, has convulsed our country from its centre to its circumference. If it be the property of the States, and Congress, as the trustee of the States, holds it in charge, then we are bound to administer it for the benefit of all the people of all the Statesthose for whom we hold the trust.

We may delegate any portion of the we possess to such authority as we may constitute within the Territories; but this authority can derive from us no more power than we have, and exercise no power which is not so

derived. But if, on the other hand, the doctrine of squatter sovereignty be the true one-that is to say, if the Territories belong to those few or many who may chance first to reach it-then we have nothing to delegate. The power of legislation is theirs by inherent right, and the duty to administer is theirs, not ours. Under this view of the case, we have no right to appoint a governor, judges, and other officers; no obligation to support a territorial government no right to tax the people of the United States for that purpose. And to one of these extremes or the other I hold sound logic and a regard for truth compels every man to go. My position is the first; and therefore I hold that Congress, in delegating powers to the territorial govern-ment, must have due regard to the limits of the Constitution, measuring out in each case in proportion to the capacity of the inhabitants to receive, and in no case surrendering that super visory control which, as the agents of the States they are bound to retain until the States themselves shall, in one of the forms established. release them.

I have frankly and freely presented my views nd have not withheld those objections which I feel to some amendments which have been incorporated in this bill; and to those who viewing this subject from a different point, find objections to the measure of a different character from those I have presented, I will say, in that kindness and comity which should animate ne all, as the sons of a common ancestry and the recipients of a common inheritance, that I seek no triumph over them, and am willing to make as large sacrifices for the peace and common interests of our country as my duty to those who have honored me with their confidence, and entrusted to me in part their inter est here, will permit. Had each State and each ndividual, when our fathers met to form this Union, insisted upon every opinion which was entertained, we should not have lived to enjoy the blessing or glory in the triumphs which have resulted from the different policy and the wise concessions of those great and good men who founded our political temple.

I am not insensible to the appeal of those orthern men, who refer to the excitement existing among their constituents; and I do not ask them to brave more than every southern man must meet who votes for this bill. It is not the measure of the rights of the south : the southern people will not so consider it. But I rely upon their patriotism to accept such de luction from the full measure to which they are entitled as does not tarnish their honor or

tion is to be thrown as an apple of discord to popular elections, the next Congress will assemble here with far less ability than we have to make a just and honorable of this controversy? Who does not know that the fires recently smothered, if again fauned into fiame, will burst forth with redoubled fury; and who can confidently say that the power will then exist to allay the elemental strife? Is this Missouri compromise of so great conse-quence to the north, that they are willing to ruu the hazard of sectional war? Is the Constitution in their eye worth so little, that, to gain a political advantage or a mere triumph on this question, they are willing to obstr those rights of property and those political privileges which the compromise of our Union was ordained to secure and perpetuate? No; these are questions which are answered when they are asked, and they are put only as an other form of attracting attention to what I be lieve the proposition to be on which we are now called to decide.

If I am correct-and who here will gainsa it? that we cannot postpone this subject with any hope of better adjustment, then have I not a right to claim of every one, who loves his country and its institutions too well to imperil either for a personal or sectional advantage, to bring his offering of prejudice or affection to the altar of the common good, and there lay a sacrifice to the divinity of patriotism? In this spirit there can be but little difficulty in arranging all the questions which are before us in the scale of justice and constitutional equality, and thus presenting to the country vidence of our purity, of our worthiness to ad minister an inheritance won by so many sacrifices of patriotism and valor, and transmitting to those who come after us a rule of conduc which, it may be hoped, reason will approve and experience confirm

Supreme Court of the United States. TUESDAY, April 25, 1854.

Sylvester L. H. Ward and Lucius E. Bulke ey, esqs., of New York, were admitted attorys and counsellors of this court.

No. 82. William A. Smith et al. vs. Lero Swormstedt et al. Appeal from the circu court of the United States for Ohio. Mr. Justice Nelson delivered the opinion of the court, reversing the decree of said circuit court, and remanding the cause for further proceedings in conformity to the opinion of this court.

No. 126. John G. Deshler, plaintiff in erro vs. George C. Dodge. This cause was argued by Mr. Stanbery, for the plaintiff in error, and by Messrs. Pugh and Spalding, for the defendant in error.

No. 89. Louis D. Gamache et al. plaintiffs i error, vs. Francois X. Piquignot et al. The argument of this cause was commenced by Holmes, for the plaintiff in error. Adjourned till to-morrow, at 11 o'clock, a.

General Intelligence.

Important Discovery.—Great guns, boulets asphyxiants, liquid fire, Paixhan's and Warner's long-rangers, and other humane contrivances for shortening life and the duration of war, being in great repute just now, we give the following in teresting communication from a writer in Paris describing the application of an important French invention to naval warfare:

"The great invention of the day, the submarine

"The great invention of the day, the submariae navigation of Dr. Payerne, is about to be put in practice at Cherbourg, the company purchasing the invention having volunteered to cleanse that harbor free of expense to the government. The secret consists in the discovery of a means whereby artificial air may be produced in sufficient quantity to enable a crew of fourteen men to breathe freely, beneath the water for the space of four freely beneath the water for the space of four hours. A curious experiment has been alread made at Marseilles, where Dr. Payerne, in com pany with three sailors, went to the bottom, in the presence of hundreds of spectators, and rose at a considerable distance and climbed the port-holes of a man-of-war without being perceived by the crew. Many experiments are about to be the efficacy of this novel means of attack. marine fleet of small boats, each to contain a creof twenty men, is already talked of as being about to be organized for the Black sea. It seems that were passed for the protection of slave property within this Territory, shall not have the effect ruffle on the surface, of the approach of one of Payerne enables the wearer, moreover, to move about with perfect case at the bottom of the sea and great anticipations are formed of the immense benefit to be derived in submarine history from the adoption of this new method of becoming ac-quainted with the hitherte unknown mystery of he ocean. However, it is not a bad reflection on the spirit of the age in which we live to remark that the first application of this tremendous power, which should take rank with the electric telegraph, as proof of the wondrous perseverance and ingenuity of man, has been made use of for the supply of oysters from Granville for the halles

Serious Fight between Students and Firemen in Cambridge.—About eleven o'clock, la night, an alarm of fire was sounded in Old Can bridge, in consequence of the partial burning of small old barn on North avenue, above the col leges. As we are informed, a volunteer fire con pany, composed principally of elderly citizens, firs turned out, and on their way to the fire receive some insults from a party of students, but o they thought proper to take no notice. Soon after as Hydrant Company No. 4, of Cambridgeport were approaching the fire, they likewise were in sulted by a company of about twenty-five students, who, upon remonstrance heing made by one of the firemen, added to their misconduct by throwi-dirt and whatever light missiles were at hand. A general fight now commenced, during wh one or two pistols and several knives wer by the students but we do not learn that any pe son is known to have been injured directly by weapons. The firemen also defended themse with their "spanners," and so violent was the con test, that Mayor Edwards came upon the ground and attempted to read the "riot act," but was

forced to desist.

During the melee, Captain Thomas S. Steven of the same company, received some severe wounds upon the face. We believe none of the

students were seriously hurt.

The affray lasted about half an hour, but wa finally quelled by the aid of the engineers, police, and citizens. We learn that several arrests are

A Russian Prince.-In the Transcript of last evening, I noticed a statement that "Prince Demidoff promises to contribute \$400,000 per annum to the expenses of the Russian war as long as it asts:" and send herewith an extract of a late le ter from a friend, who has been for more than year past in Florence, concerningthis same prin who, it would appear, cannot pay his debts!

If Demidoff is a specimen of the nobles who have promised their support, I think the Czar will not have much to be thankful for!

Bosrox.

"FLORENCE, March 13, 1854 .- Demidoff's palace residence, which is rather queer; for, within a few days the principal Italian banker here (not Tenzi) has failed for some millions, and it has been has failed for some millions, and it has been caused they say, by Demidoff who owes the banker eight thousand dollars, besides owing nearly everybod else in Florence. Is not this strange? They sa he never pays any one until sued and insulted He was going off for Russia in a great hurry some days ago, but this affair retains him."

[Boston Transcript. Paixhan Guns .- In a long letter to the Pa Moniteur, General Paixhan states that the Rus-sians, in their attack upon Sinope, used chiefly the guns which bear his name, and that the Turkish guns which bear his name, and that the Turkish frigates were armed only with ordinary 54-pounders. He disaproves of the huge three-deckers and towering line-of-battle ships of the French and English navy, like the Napoleon, (which, by the way, has been sent back to Toulon, an utter failure,) and gives a decided preference to frigates and single-decked ships, armed with guns of great calibre. The vast double or treble-decked ships, he says, will suffer more under fire, and do less damage to their opponents in proportion to their damage to their opponents in proportion to their armaments than the frigate-built ships, indepen dent of their greater cost; and that a few well managed guns of large size will be generally de

cisive in any future naval action. Flies ... " My dear fellow," said Beau H to a waiter in a hotel, "I have a respect for flies indeed, I may say I am fond of flies, but I like to endanger their safety. Will not our northern friends do as much? Are they required to do more? Who does not foresee that, if this ques-

Washington Sentinel

WM. M. OVERTON, CH. MAURICE SMITH, AND BEVERLEY TUCKER. CITY OF WASHINGTON.

APRIL 26, 1854.

GEORGE W. MEARSON IS OUR authorize gent to receive subscriptions and advertiseme n Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria. ME. GEORGE E. FRENCH, Bookseller, King reet, Alexandria, is our authorized agent to restreet, Alexandria, is our authorized agent to re-ceive advertisements and subscriptions. Single numbers can be procured at his counter every

CONGRESS.

In the Senate, yesterday, after the passage of wo bills of no public importance, the doors were closed for executive business, and remained closed till 3 o'clock, when the Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Ewing introduced a resolution calling upon the President of the United States to inform the House what steps, if any, have been taken by this government to secure the permanent acknowedgment by treaty of the rights of neutrals by the governments of Great Britain and France, and what degree of success has attended such efforts, if any have been made; and also to inform the House whether, in any particular, the government of Great Britian has assumed to act for Spain in the negotiation consequent upon the seizure of the Black Warrior what degree of responsibility that government has assumed in the matter; and, if so assuming to act for Spain, upon what pretext, if any is alleged. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The House went into Committee on the iciency bill, when Mr. Benton made a speech against the bill establishing territorial governments for Nebraska and Kansas.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Under our telegraphic head will be found abstract of interesting foreign news by the Arabia. She arrived at Halifax yesterday.

Affairs in the east are generally unchanged But two engagements have taken place, and these of no great importance—an attack upon Kalafat, in which the Russians were repulsed and pursued; another on the right bank of the Danube, where, also, a detachment of Russians were nearly annihilated.

Nothing of importance has taken place with he fleets of the Baltic and Black seas. The Greek insurrection is declining.

THE BADGER AMENDMENT.

The Nebraska bill, which passed the Senate has met with considerable opposition at the north, especially amongst the whigs of that region. Abolition fanatics have also assailed it with intemperate zeal and disgusting ferocity, because it repeals the anti-slavery restriction of the Missouri act. Three thousand New England clergymen have even gone so far as to insult the government and outrage the public by transmitting to the Senate a blasphemous protest against the repeal of that odious and unconstitutional restriction.

Candor compels us to state, further, that there s some show of opposition in the south to the Nebraska bill as it passed the Senate; but that show of opposition does not grow out of the proprosed repeal of the Missouri compromise, for it is based principally, if not entirely, on the amendment adopted Senator Badger, of North Carolina, which declares that nothing contained in the bill "shall be construed to revive or just in force any law or regulation which may have existed prior to the act of 6th March, 1820, either protecting, establishing, prohibiting, or abolishing slavery."

We must be permitted to say, with all due deference, that the positions assumed by those of the south who oppose the Senate bill because of Mr. Badger's amendment appear to us as occupying most untenable ground. Some of their statements strike at the bill itself even if the amendment had never been thought of; and we believe that all of their arguments, if carefully analyzed and traced to their legitimate consequences, would be found to have as strong a bearing against the bill without the amendment as against the amendment itself.

The assertion that the passage of the Senate bill will be only a seeming recognition of southern rights and a barren and profitless return to the true principles of the Constitution, cannot surely justify opposition to the bill because of the amendment brought forward by Mr. Badger; for the bill as amended extends the Constitution and the laws of the United States, not locally inapplicable, over the two territories proposed to be erected. It is asserted that soil and climate and the superior facilities which the inhabitants of the non-slaveholding States have of settling those territories will insure that they will prohibit slavery. If the bill, or those who may wish to discuss and these assertions be well founded, they must exist independent of Mr. Badger's amendment; for that no more than the bill itself will be responsible for those peculiarities of soil and climate or the superior facilities for emigration enjoyed by the people of the north. Would any one undertake to alter the character of the soil or modify the temperature of the climate of Nebraska? Does the Constitution empower of them to feel certain that such a thing was Congress to check and curb emigration from any State to any portion of the Union?

Considerations affecting the character of the form a State government have nothing to do cept so far as the one or the other may undertake to fix the character of the settlers by and humbugged. granting privileges to some and imposing restraints on others. The Constitution must be the basis of our reasoning; and when a departure has been made from the principles and guaranties contained in that instrument, it is a safe and good thing to retrace our steps with out consulting or scanning an account of profit Taylor and Maury, The New York Quarterly, cipients of these schemes was a reverend genand loss.

But men who are willing to sustain the bill the revival of laws respecting slavery which this work. existed in Nebraska anterior to the act of

holder in Territories where there is no law re-

It is urged, however, that the naked original bill repealing the restrictive clause of the Missouri act would revive positive laws which established and protected slavery in the Louisiana Territory, and that the Badger amendment, inasmuch as it prevents and forbids that revival, is in derogation of the constitutional principle of non-intervention.

Now we hold that there are no laws favora-

ble to the slaveholder which could be revived by the naked repeal of the Missouri restriction, and that Mr. Badger's amendment does no more than declare what was set forth in the original bill. Viewing it in this light, we expressed our regrets that it was introduced, because we feared it would perplex the minds of some whose impulses are patriotic and whose principles are sound. We hold that there are no laws favorable to the slaveholder which could be revived by the original bill, for the original bill bears upon its face clear and cogent evidence that it did not contemplate the resuscitation of any law which was rendered null and of no effect by the Missouri restriction. It expressly declares a purpose to give full scope to a new principle recognised in 1850; and then it makes an emphatic declaration, which precludes all idea of an intention to revive laws anterior to 1820. It should be remembered, that the common law rule that a revival is effected by annulling a repealing act is based upon nothing but a presumed intention to revive a previous law by the act of repeal. Does the original bill leave any grounds for such a presumption? Most certainly not. It does not leave room for the slightest belief that it proposes to repeal the eighth section of the Missouri act, because it was inconsist ent with anterior laws. On the contrary, the bill expressly declares that the Missouri act ought to be repealed, because it is in derogation of principles subsequently recognised by Congress. It then goes on to state its true intent and meaning to be "not to legislate slavery into any Territory, or to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the Constitution of the United States." The amendment of Mr. Badger follows immediately after the words we have quoted; and we are unable to perceive that it adds anything to their force or effect, or in any manner qualifies their import.

A PANIC.

The Washington letter-writers got up quite a panic on Monday. They gave notice of a trick. a stratagem, a fraud, by which the Nebraska bill was to be passed in the House of Representatives. The announcement of it did not more astonish the friends of the bill than it alarmed its opponents. Several of the anti-Nebraska journals took it up, and urged the return of the absent members to Washington to defeat it. One of these journals, in its trembling anxiety, set down the absent opponents of the bill at seventy, and despaired of defeating the scheme, unless they could be induced to return. Even our venerable neighbor of the Intelligencer shared in the general apprehension. Its columns of Monday contained

the following: important day in the House of Representatives. The intelligent correspondent of the New

Courier writes as follows: "' When the Territorial Committee, which will be next called for, [to-day,] reports, its chairman, Mr. Richardson, will present the Nebraska bill divested of the Clayton and Badger amendments. If all the wires work, the bill will be passed under the previous question in one hour.

"Another writer, the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, who, from his official connexion with one of the House committees, may be considered well-advised, writes as follows :

"'It has been resolved upon not to disturb the Nebraska bills now before Congress-neither the Senate bill, which is beyond the reach of the House this session, nor the House bill introduced some time since by Mr. Richardson. The plan is to report a new bill from the Committee on Territories, somewhat different from the bill previously reported, and to put that bill either at once on its passage, under the screwdriver of the previous question, or to place it on the Speaker's table, where the Senate bill was, in order to watch an apportunity to pass it with a thin house, when its friends are ready for action and its opponents sick or absent from the city. There is scarcely a quorum present at this moment, and hence this is the time to obtain a snap judgment on the ques-tion. Next Monday the committees will be called, and it has been so arranged that but few will be able to report, or willing to vield the floor till the Committee on Territories shall be called. Then will be the time for the friends of the bill to jump from behind the ambush, and to make quick work with the opponents of amend it. Telegraphic despatches have in the mean time been sent to all the absent members within reach of the wires, and next Monday will see an exciting scene in the House.'

That there was no such device, those acquainted with the rules of the House cannot but be convinced. Those rules are so complicated that they are a study. We do not pretend to understand them, but we know enough utterly and entirely impossible.

We are sorry that our respected contem porary of the Intelligencer fell into the trap that population which may settle a territory and was set for the unwary. We are sorry that they did not exercise their usual caution. If they with the Nebraska bill or the amendment, ex- listen to the tales of the anti-Nebraska men, they will find themselves misled, bamboozled,

> Monday passed without the falling of the much-talked-of pitfall. There was no snare, no trap. It was all an invention-an anti-Nebraska trick

We have received, through Messrs Post Office," "The Politics of Russia," Popuargue that the Badger amendment takes away lar Amusements," and the contemporary literafrom it all virtue as a return to the true princi- ture of the last three months. We shall hereples of the Constitution, because it prevents after take occasion to speak more fully upon

We also acknowledge the receipt of Hunt's March 6, 1820. And here we would call at- Merchants' Magazine. This work will in June tention to the fact that the amendment does have completed its 24th semi-annual volume; not touch that provision of the bill which ex- containing each nearly 800 pages. It is a work of flesh is decayed, and requires constant dressing tends the Constitution and the laws not locally great utility and interest; being a record of all Mr. S. is fully aware of his situation and of his apinapplicable over the proposed Territories? It is an unsafe thing for a southern man to express a want of confidence in the protection of finance, agriculture, mining, and manufacture, some of the protection of finance, agriculture, mining, and manufacture, mining, and manufacture, some of his family, and to have his body buried amongst his kindred.

which the Constitution affords to the slave- tures. In all its departments, it is comprehensive and instructive. The first article in the only to dread hostile and unconstitutional le-gislation.

number before us is "The commerce of the Ottoman empire," by J. P. Brown, consul at lating to slavery. The southern people have number before us is "The commerce of the

We have received from a friend several eautiful poetic gems, to which we propose to give a place in our columns. They are the productions of a lovely woman, who has been taken from the guardianship of her little children, and for whom and her husband they were alone

> [ORIGINAL.] Childhood's Memories.

Mother, I love the pretty flowers, They look so fresh and bright, Smiling in the sunshine From morning until night.

I never know which one to choose Amongst the lovely things, For every new one that I see

Some pleasant fancy brings.
Ah! well do I remember
The violets wild and blue,
Which grew about our little he The first we ever knew. Our sister, dear, was with us there,

In all our pleasant plays; And happy children were we all, In those bright summer days. But then there came a dreary time, When leaves and flowers did fall Our dear one faded too with them

The fairest of them all.
Then we were forced to play alone, Beneath the autumn she But all our happiness was gone, The happiness she made.

Sometimes we would on tiptoe steal,
Her favorite flower to bring;
Too happy when a languid smile,
Received our offering.
'Twould break my heart to dwell upon
Those days of pain and woo. Those days of pain and woe;
At last the parting came, and we
Were forced to let her go.
They laid her in a quiet place.

Beneath a greenwood tree, Where we had oft in summer time, Where we had oft in summer time,
All played so merrily.
Our moss-thatched dairy there we built,
Our little feasts we made;
Ah! little did we think how sad,

Could be that forest-shade. But still we loved to linger there, Though we could see her not: And bring the flowers which she had loved To grace our favorite spot. Now, years have passed, our "little home,

It shall be ours no more; Even she another rest hath found, Far from the household door. The greenwood tree was taken, too,
Nor were the flowers forgot;
But soon they withered, drooped, and died
In that strange church-yard spot. And sad and lonely seemed it then That she should there be laid; But soon another little grave

Close by her side was made A baby brother, beautiful, Came after she was gone; And happy were the few bright days Of this sweet little one. But God, in mercy, took him, to

From sorrow, sin, and care; And now, close side by side, they rest— In heaven their spirits are. And oft, in quiet evening time, Around our mother's knee. We come to talk of those sweet ones So dear to memory. Oh, may we, like that sister good Grow in all purity;
In love, and peace, and faithfulness,
And sweet humility.
And, like the baby brother, dear,
Be joined to her above;

(When we have done our work on earth, Through our good Father's love. PHILADELPHIA, March 23, 1852.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

Suicide.—The Richmond Examiner reports the suicide of a man at Taylorsville, on the Fredericksburg and Richmond railroad. He "To-Day.—If the prognostications of the letter-writers may be relied on, this will be an found near the railroad, suspended in a tree by his cravat. From papers on his person, his name is supposed to be S. A. Ruger. In his pocket were found a gold watch, \$300 in money, and a receipt passage on the Hermann, which

sailed on Saturday last for Bremen. COUNTERFEIT OR DECEPTIVE NOTES .- We see that notes have been put in circulation at Green Bay, Wisconsin, purporting to be upon the Metropolitan Bank of Washington, to the amount of ten or fifteen thousand dollars. There is no such bank in this city, and never has been one of that name. The "Bank of the Metropolis" is most like it, and the utterers of these notes no doubt intended they should be mistaken for the notes of this genuine bank.

PAPER MADE FROM BARK .-- At a late sitting of the Societe d'Encouragement pour l'Industrie Nationale of Paris, a report was made of a plan for making paper of wood. All kinds of white wood, such as poplar, bass, willow, and lime, are said to be suitable for the purpose. Specimens of the paper thus manufactured were laid before the society.

New EBONY LINE .-- A new enterprise is on foot in New York. It is that of establishing a Tine of steamers to Liberia. The capital is to be one hundred thousand dollars, and it is said that one-half of that sum has been already subscribed. Mr. Anson G. Phelps is the president of the company. They intend to apply for the contract for carrying the mails to Africa.

A Young Rogue .- One of Mr. Pease's pupils was lately arrested in Boston for having stolen a gold watch at the Worcester depot. He is but fifteen years old, and small in stature. By his affected artlessness he almost deceived the police.

THE HON. HUMPHREY MARSHALL, late United States Commissioner to China, and his family, arrived in this city day before yesterday, and have taken rooms at the National Hotel.

BURTON'S LIBRARY .- The private library of W. E. Burton, of New York, contains upwards of 17,000 volumes in all departments of literature, a large portion of which are rare and choice editions and works.

A NEW Donge .- A Baltimore lottery dealer has been addressing his schemes to the boxes of the New York post office. Among the recontaining among its articles "Our National tleman, who informed the Journal of Commerce of the fact.

> Deplorable.-Hon. Luther Severance, of Maine, late United States commissioner at the Sandwich Islands, has returned to his home in Augusta. We regret to learn from the Banner that Mr. S. is afflicted with an incurable cancer, which has already eaten away his lower lip and chip, and is extend ing among the glands of the throat, where the